

**REMARKS**

In the Notice of Non-Compliant Response mailed March 23, 2007, the Office required Applicants to elect a single value for "n." Applicants respectfully traverse this requirement and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the Notice.

As indicated at page 6, lines 27-29 of the present application, a preferred alkyl(hydroxystearoyloxy)stearate is sold under the tradename of Kester Wax K82P. As demonstrated by product information for Kester Wax K82P attached at Tab A, Kester Wax K82P "was created to mimic the complex polyester fraction of beeswax" and "contains a range of hydroxyl polyesters with an average chain length of 66 carbon atoms..." In fact, Kester Wax K82P is referred to as "synthetic beeswax." (See, Tab A). Thus, Kester Wax K82P (synthetic beeswax), like natural beeswax, is a mixture of different components having different carbon chain lengths.

Requiring Applicants to elect a single "n" value of synthetic beeswax in this application is similar to requiring a patent applicant to elect a single component of natural beeswax for prosecution. Applicants respectfully submit that such a requirement would not exist for natural beeswax, so no such requirement should exist in the present application for synthetic beeswax. To require such an election in this case is unduly restrictive and does not accurately reflect the practical realities or properties of the elected synthetic wax.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the Notice.

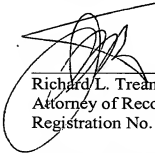
Nevertheless, in an attempt to facilitate prosecution in this case, Applicants have elected, with traverse, the species of C<sub>20</sub>-C<sub>40</sub> alkyl(hydroxystearoyloxy)stearate (tackifying wax) in which the average value of n is 28.

Application No. 10/656,278  
Response to Notice mailed March 23, 2007

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in  
condition for examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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